GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5407
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
SHORTAGE OF CEMENT STEEL AND BITUMEN IN A & N ISLANDS
BISHNU PADA RAY

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a): whether there is a shortage of cement, steel and bitumen in APWD in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands;

(b): if so, the reasons therefor;

(c): the total requirement of cement, steel, bitumen of APWD per financial year;

(d): the quantity of cement, steel & bitumen procured by APWD, during this financial year, till date;

(e): whether there is any proposal for urgent procurement of cement, steel and bitumen so that the development activities are not hampered;

(f): if so, the details thereof; and

(g): the extent of financial losses, which APWD has to bear in the form of escalation paid to contractors due to the delay in work because of shortage of cement, steel & bitumen?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BAN DATTATREYA)

(a)&(b): Cement and bitumen are procured by Andaman Public Works Department (APWD) through Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals (DGS&D). The supplies of cement are effected by DGS&D upto Port Blair.Due to the number of activities involved from placing of indents upto the supply at Port Blair, sometimes DGS&Dis not able to supply the materials in time, particularly during working months when the demand is more from all the construction agencies. The delay occurs mainly due to transportation of materials from mainland to Port Blair through ships. Sometimes despite using all available Cargo Ships,the demand is not met. There is no shortage at present though temporary shortages may arise whenever supplies are delayed.

Steel is procured through Andaman & Nicobar Island Integerated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO) based at Port Blair. No scarcity is felt for steel.

(c): The total requirement per financial year is as under:-

2001-2002

I.	Cement	38,990 MT
II	Bitumen	3,000 MT
III	Steel	2,892 MT

(d): During the financial year (i.e. 2001-02) the quantity drawn is as under:-

Cement - 36,733 MT against indent placed for 37,500 MT to DGS&D.

Bitumen - 2697.966 MT against supply order placed for 3000 MT to IOC on DGS&D Rate Contract.

Steel - 2217 MT

(e)&(f): Procurement through DGS&D is continuing.At present sufficient quantity of cement & bitumen is available and the demand of the divisions executing various construction works is met without any hindrance. Therefore there is no inpediment to the developmental activities in APWD. Similar is the case with supply of bitumen.

(g): The stipulated period of most of the contracts are less than or upto 18 months in which no escalation clause exists. Hence, there is no financial loss in the form of escalation.